



Fall 2014

**MUNICIPAL NEWSLETTER**



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\*For emergency services after 5 p.m. or weekends (302) 366-7000.

## CITY OF NEWARK MUNICIPAL NEWSLETTER

Prepared by the City of Newark, 220 South Main Street  
Newark, Delaware 19711 • (302) 366-7000  
[www.cityofnewarkde.us](http://www.cityofnewarkde.us)

Municipal News: Dana K. Johnston  
Editor/Community Affairs Officer  
Activities: Joe Spadafino  
Editor/Recreation Superintendent

The City of Newark Newsletter is e-mailed tri-annually (January, May and August) to Newark residents to provide information on city services, activities and programs. If you have any comments or suggestions regarding the newsletter, please call (302) 366-7020. For additional information on recreation programs or registration, please call (302) 366-7060.

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## City Council

Mayor	Polly Sierer	<a href="mailto:pasierer@comcast.net">pasierer@comcast.net</a>
<b>Council</b>		
District 1	Mark Morehead	<a href="mailto:MarkNewarkFirst@aol.com">MarkNewarkFirst@aol.com</a>
District 2	Todd Ruckle	<a href="mailto:ruckled2@gmail.com">ruckled2@gmail.com</a>
District 3	Rob Gifford	<a href="mailto:robfornewark@gmail.com">robfornewark@gmail.com</a>
District 4	Margrit Hadden	<a href="mailto:haddenmargrit@gmail.com">haddenmargrit@gmail.com</a>
District 5	Luke R. Chapman, CFP*	<a href="mailto:luke@chapmanfornewark.com">luke@chapmanfornewark.com</a>
District 6	Stuart Markham	<a href="mailto:stu.markham@gmail.com">stu.markham@gmail.com</a>

## Americans with Disabilities Act

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) provides protection for disabled individuals with respect to employment, public accommodations, public service, and telecommunication. The City of Newark, Delaware is committed in both policy and practice to comply with all provisions of the Act. Through the provision of reasonable accommodations, accessible facilities, auxiliary aids, and telecommunications devices (TDD's), the City desires to make its facilities, programs and services accessible to individuals with disabilities. The City has established procedures to investigate any allegations of non-compliance by the City with the ADA.

Questions, comments and suggestions regarding the implementation of this Act by the City of Newark may be directed to the City Manager's Office, ADA Coordinator, Mr. Andrew Haines, Deputy City Manager, 220 South Main Street, Newark, DE 19711, or by calling (302) 366-7026.

## CABLE TELEVISION ISSUES

The City of Newark has franchise agreements with cable television providers within City limits. The City Secretary serves as the complaint officer charged with resolving cable television issues covered by these franchise agreements. Service problems covered under the franchise agreement include outages and network failures. However, items such as bill disputes, program offerings, and pricing do not fall under the franchise agreements and are not covered. If you have a service problem and are unable to resolve the problem with the cable company directly, you may contact City Secretary Renee Bensley at (302) 366-7070 or [rbensley@newark.de.us](mailto:rbensley@newark.de.us) weekdays between 8:30 a.m. and 5 p.m.

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### September

- 1 CITY HOLIDAY – Labor Day – Offices Closed
- 1 Monday's refuse will be collected on Tuesday**
- 2 Tuesday's refuse will be collected on Wednesday (NO GREEN WEDNESDAY COLLECTION)**
- 2 Planning Commission Meeting – 7:00 p.m. – Municipal Bldg. – Council Chamber
- 8 City Council Meeting – 7:00 p.m. – Municipal Bldg. – Council Chamber
- 9 Conservation Advisory Commission Meeting – 7:00 p.m. – Municipal Bldg. – 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor
- 10 Downtown Newark Partnership Board Meeting – 6:30 p.m. – City Manager's Conference Room
- 21 NEWARK COMMUNITY DAY – 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. – UD Green and Main Street (Rain date - September 22)
- 16 Newark Traffic Committee Meeting – 3:30 p.m. - Municipal Bldg. – Police Department Conference Room
- 18 Board of Adjustment Meeting – 7:00 p.m. – Municipal Bldg. – Council Chamber
- 22 City Council Meeting – 7:00 p.m. – Municipal Bldg. – Council Chamber
- 28 TASTE OF NEWARK – 12:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. – Old College Lawn
- 30 Tax Bills Due**

### October

- 4 Main Street Mile – 9:00 a.m. – Main Street
- 4 Fall Flea Market – 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. – George Wilson Center (Rain date – October 11)
- 4 Fall Community Clean-Up – 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. – Municipal Bldg.
- 7 Planning Commission Meeting – 7:00 p.m. – Municipal Bldg. – Council Chamber
- 8 Downtown Newark Partnership Board Meeting – 6:30 p.m. – City Manager's Conference Room
- 11 Harvest Arts Festival - 12:00p.m. to 5:00p.m. - Academy Lawn
- 13 City Council Meeting – 7:00 p.m. – Municipal Bldg. – Council Chamber
- 13 Fall Leaf Collection Program Begins
- 14 Conservation Advisory Commission Meeting – 7:00 p.m. – Municipal Bldg. – 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor
- 15 Newark Traffic Committee Meeting – 3:30 p.m. – Municipal Bldg. – Police Department Conference Room
- 16 Board of Adjustment Meeting – 7:00 p.m. – Municipal Bldg. – Council Chamber
- 20 City Council Workshop on Newark Comprehensive Development Plan Update – 7:00 p.m. – Municipal Bldg. – Council Chamber
- 26 Annual Halloween Parade – 3:00 p.m. – Main Street
- 26 Trick-or-Treat Main Street – For one hour immediately following the end of the parade
- 27 City Council Meeting – 7:00 p.m. – Municipal Bldg. – Council Chamber
- 30 Halloween Party – 4:00 p.m. – George Wilson Center

### November

- 3 City Council Workshop - Pension Plan - 7:00p.m. to 9:00p.m. - Municipal Bldg. - Council Chamber
- 4 Planning Commission Meeting – 7:00 p.m. – Municipal Bldg. – Council Chamber
- 10 City Council Meeting – 7:00 p.m. – Municipal Bldg. – Council Chamber
- 11 Conservation Advisory Commission Meeting – 7:00 p.m. – Municipal Bldg. – 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor
- 13 Downtown Newark Partnership Annual Meeting & Volunteer Appreciation – 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. – Location TBA
- 19 Newark Traffic Committee Meeting – 3:30 p.m. - Municipal Bldg. – Police Department Conference Room
- 20 Board of Adjustment Meeting – 7:00 p.m. – Municipal Bldg. – Council Chamber
- 23 Newark's 41st Annual Turkey Trot – Check-in 8:00 a.m. – 10K; 8:45 a.m. – 5K – Handloff Park
- 24 City Council Meeting – 7:00 p.m. – Municipal Bldg. – Council Chamber
- 26 Thursday's RECYCLING will be collected on Wednesday (NO GREEN WEDNESDAY COLLECTION)**
- 27 CITY HOLIDAY – Thanksgiving Day – Offices Closed
- 27 Thanksgiving Breakfast – 8:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. – George Wilson Center
- 28 CITY HOLIDAY – Day After Thanksgiving – Offices Closed
- 28 Friday's RECYCLING will be collected as scheduled**

### December

- 2 Planning Commission Meeting - 7:00 p.m. – Municipal Bldg. – Council Chamber
- 6 WINTERFEST – 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. – Main Street (Rain date – December 7)
- 6 Morning Snack with Santa – 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. – George Wilson Center
- 6 Santa's Secret Shoppe – 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. – George Wilson Center
- 8 City Council Meeting – 7:00 p.m. – Municipal Bldg. – Council Chamber
- 9 Conservation Advisory Commission Meeting – 7:00 p.m. – Municipal Bldg. – 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor
- 10 Downtown Newark Partnership Board Meeting – 6:30 p.m. – City Manager's Conference Room
- 17 Newark Traffic Committee Meeting – 3:30 p.m. – Municipal Bldg. – Police Department Conference Room
- 18 Board of Adjustment Meeting – 7:00 p.m. – Municipal Bldg. – Council Chamber
- 22 Monday's trash will be collected as scheduled**
- 23 Tuesday's trash will be collected as scheduled**
- 24 CITY HOLIDAY – Christmas Eve – Offices Closed
- 25 CITY HOLIDAY – Christmas Day – Offices Closed
- 25 Thursday's RECYCLING will be collected on Wednesday (NO GREEN WEDNESDAY COLLECTION)**
- 26 Friday's recycling will be collected as scheduled**

### January

- 1 CITY HOLIDAY – New Year's Day – Offices Closed
- 1 Thursday's recycling will be collected on Wednesday (NO GREEN WEDNESDAY COLLECTION)**

## Manager's Message

### Improving Utility Service with Guaranteed Savings!



As our smart metering installation project nears completion, it seems the appropriate time to profile its implementation highlights. I am so pleased that we were able to take this step forward and make this investment for our community. The installation of smart meters, that reduce the chance of misreads and help detect potential leaks early on, averting more serious problems for our residents and organization, is a great operational and efficiency gain for our organization. The project translates to better customer service and boasts a very progressive infrastructure. We now have a better handle on our customer usage and our community has access to near real-time energy and water consumption data which helps improve conservation awareness.

#### Newark's Project Profile:

Newark, Delaware serves a population of more than 30,000 residents/students and hundreds of businesses. Recent citywide achievements include:

- A thriving downtown and award winning "Great American Main Street"; check out the video:
- Recipient of a 2014 Gold Medal for the "Delaware Healthy Community" award,
- 2014 Bronze Award for "Bicycle Friendly Community",
- Recipient of the 2014 "Best Parks and Recreation Department in Delaware" award,
- 14<sup>th</sup> year of "Tree City USA" designation,
- 2013 Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting,
- 2013 designation of the Pomeroy and Newark Rail Trail in as a National Recreation Trail,
- Multiyear CALEA Certified Police Department

#### The Utility Problem

- We determined the need to replace a large percentage of water meters and investing in old technology would have been negligent so researching the installation of state-of-the-art metering technology was embraced.
- Our existing electric and water metering infrastructure was outdated and didn't allow for accurate or on-demand meter reading, time-of-use billing, automatic leak detection, mobile work order processing and could not provide a foundation for future services or efficiencies.
- Residents were unable to track water usage outside of their receipt of a utility bill and only received water billings on a quarterly basis hindering their opportunity to modify usage or address concerns in a timely manner.

#### The Honeywell Solution – Guaranteed Performance Contract

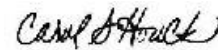
- The Newark-Honeywell relationship started with a successful audit of municipal facilities and utility infrastructure that identified a variety of energy conservation measures that would meet the City's overarching goals and qualify for American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) funds. Advanced metering was first identified as an option at that time.
- The advanced metering infrastructure (AMI) project Honeywell developed for Newark was funded through an \$11.5 million guaranteed performance contract, which included \$2.9 million in State of Delaware Supported ARRA funding. If anticipated results are not achieved after a full year of experience, Honeywell guaranteed our community the difference.



### Key Technologies

- Honeywell collaborated with leading technology providers to select the best hardware and software solution for our project that included:
  - Replacement of approximately 12,000 electric meters with Elster EnergyAxis smart meters that connect to data aggregators in each neighborhood to form a local area network (LAN).
  - Replacement of approximately 10,000 water meters with Sensus iPerl and Omni meters, which also tie into the LAN.
  - A Tropos wireless broadband mesh network from ABB that extends across the municipal boundary, connecting to the metering LANs and bringing data to core utility systems. Newark is now working towards using this network to support additional utility applications such as outage management, voluntary participation in automatic load shedding and mobile workforce applications like work order management and cloud-based geographic information system (GIS) mapping software.
  - A customer web portal that allows residents to securely view electric and water utility use. MeterSense, the meter data management system (MDMS), collects, analyzes and validates the data and flags any inconsistencies that might indicate a problem so they can be addressed proactively. To date several residents have been alerted to leaks that would have previously gone undetected for longer periods.

As we move into the measurement and verification phase for the guarantee associated with this performance project (when a select number of meters will be pulled to verify expected results) we can share that we have already experienced improved meter accuracy, and we are very optimistic that the overall performance will exceed original expectations. While meter replacements were always anticipated and needed to occur, our comprehensive metering project approach will pay for itself! We will be sharing more updates in the future but I have been advised that our community's implementation has been one of the most efficiently handled and positively embraced by both our community and employees. For that, I thank you for your continued support as we strive to work smarter on your behalf.



## 11th ANNUAL Taste of Newark

The 11th Annual Taste of Newark is Sunday, September 28, 12:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. on the Old College Lawn, UD Main Campus (rain location is at Clayton Hall). Tickets are \$50 each if purchased before the event and \$70 at the door. They are limited and sell out quickly.

Founded by former Mayor Vance Funk, and now co-chaired by both Mr. Funk and Mayor Polly Sierer, Taste of Newark is the ultimate foodie event in Newark! Guests enjoy the culinary delights of nearly 50 Newark restaurants accompanied by the finest area wine distributors on the picturesque Old College Lawn.

Celebrity cooking demonstrations provide phenomenal entertainment as guests' palates are tempted by the ultimate variety of foods from around the world. A spirit of competition between each and every restaurant brings the absolute best eating experience to guests.

Fueling the competition among eateries is the annual "Iron Chef" style Battle of the Chefs! Now in its sixth year, Newark's best chefs battle for the title of Newark's Top Chef, with one hour to concoct masterpieces from a secret list of ingredients. Competing this year are Donny Merrill of Skipjack, Matt McKay from the Newark Country Club, and Ben MacGuinness and Robbie Jester from 16 Mile Taphouse, to be judged by a panel of local celebrity judges.

Additionally, celebrity chef Tom Hannum, chef and owner of Buckley's Tavern in Centreville, Delaware, member of the American Culinary Federation's honor society, the American Academy of Chefs, will be performing cooking demonstrations for the crowd. Chef Hannum started at the Hotel du Pont in the summer of 1978 as a cook's helper after graduating from the Culinary Institute of America, and later trained at five star restaurant Le Bec Fin, as well as the Ente Vom Lehel with Chef Hans Peter Wodarz in the Hotel Nassauer Hof in Wiesbaden, Germany. He became the Executive Chef for the Hotel du Pont in 2002, and has been featured on the CBS *Saturday Early Show* as well as *Good Morning America*.

For more information or to purchase tickets, call 302-368-2561 ext 112 or visit [www.eventbrite.com](http://www.eventbrite.com), keyword "Taste of Newark."

### The City of Newark's Citizen Notification System

**InformMe**



- Greater flexibility of notification type selections
- Multiple channels for receipt of information
- Quicker delivery of messages
- On-line, in person or by mail registration
- Ability to personalize your InformMe profile

[www.cityofnewarkde.us/InformMe](http://www.cityofnewarkde.us/InformMe)

Coming downtown and worried about parking? Stop worrying! With three municipal parking lots and plenty of on-street parking, shopping and dining downtown is convenient and hassle-free. Nearly 70 downtown businesses are currently signed up to participate in the Newark Merchant Validated Parking program for the Municipal Lots. Customers of the participating businesses may park for free for a period of time. More businesses are being added all the time. For an up-to-date list of merchant validation locations, go to [www.enjoydowntownnewark.com/Parking.htm](http://www.enjoydowntownnewark.com/Parking.htm) or look for the "Newark's Great We Validate" sticker in the windows of participating businesses.







**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 4**  
**9:00 a.m.**

On Saturday, October 4 runners from all over the Delaware Valley will meet in downtown Newark for what has become an autumn tradition: a one-mile run down Main Street to benefit the Newark Police Department's K-9 Unit (one of their main sources of funding) and the Downtown Newark Partnership. The race starts at 9:00 a.m. Awards ceremony and refreshments will be provided immediately after the race at the Deer Park Tavern.

Register at [www.active.com](http://www.active.com) or [www.mainstmile.com](http://www.mainstmile.com). Pre-registration is \$20 until September 28. The first 250 pre-registers are guaranteed a race t-shirt. Day of event registration is \$25 at Fusion Fitness in Market East Plaza, starting at 8:00 a.m. to 8:45 a.m. For more information, contact Nic DeCaire at (302) 738-4580.

# Harvest Arts Festival

*sponsored by*  
**The Newark Arts Alliance**

**Saturday, October 11**

**12:00 - 5:00 p.m.**

Academy Building Lawn,  
Main Street

A celebration of the arts including fine art and craft exhibitors presented by the Newark Arts Alliance. Now in its sixth year, the Harvest Arts Festival is a celebration of the arts, with local artists displaying their fine art and crafts for sale, live music, and children's art activities in the center of downtown Newark.

The Festival is held during the University of Delaware's "Parents & Family Weekend," which is one of the busiest weekends of the fall. For more information, please contact the Newark Arts Alliance at 302-266-7266 or visit [www.newarkartsalliance.org](http://www.newarkartsalliance.org).

## HALLOWEEN PARADE & TRICK-OR-TREAT MAIN STREET

**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 26**  
**3:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.**  
**Main Street, Newark**

Newark's 67<sup>th</sup> annual Halloween Parade is drawing near. Plan now to be a part of this special Halloween event, complete with marching bands, floats, antique automobiles, costumed characters and much more. The parade begins at Tyre Avenue and Main Street and marches west on Main Street, to College Avenue. Local clubs, civic groups, school bands, PTA's and scout troops are encouraged to participate. Please contact Newark Parks and Recreation Department at (302) 366-7060 or visit us online at [www.cityofnewarkde.us/parksrecreation](http://www.cityofnewarkde.us/parksrecreation) for more information.

There is NO RAIN DATE for this event. For cancellation information, please call (302) 366-7147.

## WINTERFEST

**FRIDAY, DECEMBER 5**  
**ACADEMY LAWN**

**6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.**

**RAIN DATE DECEMBER 7**

Winterfest 2014 promises to be a wonderful addition to the holiday season. Holiday entertainment, roasting chestnuts, caroling, tree lighting, ice carving demonstrations, and much more will fill this wonderful evening of fun for the whole family.

Winterfest is a joint effort by the Newark Parks and Recreation Department, the University of Delaware, and the Downtown Newark Partnership.

Please remember that pets are not comfortable in the crowds of large events, so for their safety and the safety of those attending the event, please leave your pets at home.



Become a fan of the Downtown Newark Partnership or follow them on Twitter @DowntownNewarkDE and keep up-to-date on happenings in the downtown area - everything from meetings to events! Even see photos from past events!





## City of Newark 2014 Holiday Refuse/Recycling Collection Schedule

The regular refuse/recycling collection schedule must be adjusted during the year for City holidays. The City has two residential collection schedules - one on Monday and Thursday and the other on Tuesday and Friday. Yard waste collections are normally made on Wednesdays.

Wednesdays are also reserved for refuse/recycling collections when there is a holiday during that week. If there is a holiday on Monday, Monday's route is covered on Tuesday and Tuesday's route is rescheduled for Wednesday. Similarly, if the holiday falls on Friday, Thursday's collection is made on Wednesday, and Friday's route is rescheduled for Thursday. The holiday refuse/recycling collection schedule allows for the collection of refuse and recycling once each per week. **Green Wednesday Yard Waste collection is canceled during weeks containing a holiday.**

Holiday	Refuse/Recycling Normally Collected	Will Be Collected
Labor Day Monday, Sept. 2	Monday, Sept. 1 Tuesday, Sept. 2 Wednesday, Sept. 4 – No yard waste collection	Tuesday, Sept. 2 Wednesday, Sept. 3
Thanksgiving Day Thursday, Nov. 27	Thursday, Nov. 27 No changes to Friday's recycling collection schedule Wednesday, Nov. 27 - No yard waste collection	Wednesday, Nov. 26
Christmas Day Thursday, Dec. 25	Thursday, Dec. 25	Wednesday, Dec. 24 No yard waste collection this week No change to Friday's collection
New Year's Day Thursday, Jan. 1	Thursday, Jan. 1	Wednesday, Dec. 31 No yard waste collection this week No change to Friday's collection

### Stormwater Infrastructure GIS Grant

The City of Newark has received a grant from Delaware Department of Natural Resources in the amount of \$136,000 to create a digital stormwater master plan that will be used to target spending on upgrades and replacements in the stormwater system.

The City of Newark will create a master surface water and drainage plan in a GIS database. What this means, for the City and the residents, is we will have a searchable, up-to-date database, which can be easily modified based on field data, of all surface water facilities within the City. Surface water facilities include drainage swales, catch basins, storm sewer pipes, stormwater management ponds and Best Management Practices (BMP) which include grass filter strips, swales and bioretention areas. Information on pipe sizes, maintenance records and condition reports will be attached to each facility for reporting and maintenance prioritization. In addition, the City will create a priority ranking of BMP retrofit sites with an implementation plan for improvements. These retrofit sites, once implemented, will improve drainage and water quality throughout the City. This database will also lay the groundwork for similar future projects to include City sewer and water utilities. Total project cost is expected to be \$272,000.

As part of this process, contractors from Johnson Mirmiran and Thompson (JMT) working for the City of Newark are currently gathering survey data on the entire storm sewer system. This process requires that they enter some private property through existing stormwater access easements. The surveyors will be wearing high visibility vests, carrying surveying equipment and will be able to provide proper identification upon request. Questions or concerns should be directed to the Public Works and Water Resources Department at (302) 366-7055.



## ADOPT-A-STREET & HELP TO KEEP NEWARK FREE OF LITTER

Our Adopt-A-Street Program allows volunteers or organizations to adopt a section or entire street within the City. By doing so you are required to commit to performing litter patrol a minimum of four times per year. Please consider adopting a street in your neighborhood and assist with improving the cleanliness and aesthetic value of the area. For additional information, visit or call the Public Works & Water Resources Department at (302) 366-7040 and ask for an information packet! Together we can ensure Newark is a nice place to live for years to come.



## Fall Leaf Collection Schedule

The city provides leaf collection as a seasonal service to its residents. Leaf collection begins on Monday, October 13 and continues through Friday, December 12, 2014. All leaves must be raked to the curb by December 5. Residents can reasonably expect four leaf pickups per season. As the volume of leaves falling from trees increases, crews may not be able to finish an entire route on the assigned day. Collection will begin each week where the crews left off the previous week.

<b>Monday</b>	Center city from Elkton Road to Marrows Road from Main Street to the northern boundary of Thursday's route and White Chapel.
<b>Tuesday</b>	Northern portion of the city, north of Main Street and east of West Main Street/Nottingham Road (excluding West Branch and Christianstead). Includes Fairfield, Fairfield Crest, Cleveland Avenue, Lumbrook, Creek Bend, Ridgewood Glen, Paper Mill Farms, Evergreen, Northgate Commons, Stafford, Parkview, The Hunt at Louviers, The Woods at Louviers, Middle Run Meadow, Jenney's Run, Laura's Glenn and Wyncliff.
<b>Wednesday</b>	Area west of Bent Lane and Radcliffe Drive, including Nottingham Green, Pheasant Run, Cherry Hill, Elan, Cherry Hill Manor, Barksdale Estates, Country Hills, Country Place, Abbotsford and Briarcreek.
<b>Thursday</b>	Oaklands, Nottingham Manor, College Park, Westfield, West Branch, Christianstead, Timber Creek, Woodmere, Valley Stream, and Stone Spring.
<b>Friday</b>	Southern area of the city including Devon, Binns, Arbour Park, Silverbrook, Yorkshire, Yorkshire Woods, Cobblefield, and Cannons Gate.

**If you have any questions regarding the Fall Leaf Collection Program, please call the Public Works & Water Resources Department at (302) 366-7045.**



### To Prepare For Leaf Collection

- ❑ **Rake and pile leaves in the grassplot area between the curb and sidewalk. DO NOT RAKE LEAVES ON TO THE STREET OR CURBS.**
- ❑ **To help minimize storm drainage system clogging, please clear or remove any leaves that may have accumulated on the top of the storm drain or catch basins in front of your home.**
- ❑ **Avoid mixing rocks and sticks with leaves. They may damage collection machinery.**
- ❑ **Do not place brush in leaf piles as it may clog machinery.**
- ❑ **Please park cars in your driveway on collection day to help increase the efficiency of the leaf-loading truck.**
- ❑ **Warn children not to play in leaf piles on streets or near curbs to protect them from injury by unsuspecting motorists.**

**Grass cycle by leaving mowed grass clippings/leaves on the yard to nourish the soil without fertilizers. To successfully grass cycle, mow frequently using a mulching mower or by purchasing a mulching adapter for older model lawnmowers. Compost to recycle kitchen and yard wastes into nutrient-rich organic matter for gardening and to help reduce the volume of curbside waste collection.**



# Riparian Buffers Help Improve Water Quality

## *Tips on how you can help*

Mowing all the way to the bank and leaving excess sticks and debris next to a creek may seem like a harmless task, but these actions are actually detrimental to the health of the creek and can contribute to flooding downstream. You, as a homeowner next to a stream, can do a lot to help improve the water quality in our streams by treating the area next to creeks and streams as a "Riparian Buffer." According to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), a riparian buffer is a vegetated landscape along a water body through which pollutants associated with stormwater runoff pass and are filtered out. Keeping a healthy riparian buffer is critical in protecting the health of our streams and stabilizing the stream banks.

It is strongly encouraged that you not mow to the edge of the creek and that you keep the buffer area free from any yard clippings, sticks, and debris. This buffer vegetation helps anchor the soil in place, due to its deep root structure, and acts as a natural filtration system, removing excess nutrients and sediment, improving water quality, and promoting an increase in wildlife within and along the creek. These actions will assist the creek in returning to a more natural state, and create a healthier creek for the enjoyment of all.



*Example of a good Riparian Buffer*

Here are some simple things you can do to help protect and improve the creek:

- Don't mow to the edge of the bank. Letting taller grasses grow in this area will improve water quality and better stabilize the soil, reducing stream bank erosion.
- Leave the area around the creek free from yard waste and debris, especially sticks and branches. These branches wash downstream and clog smaller bridges and culverts.
- Choose native plants to create a healthy creek landscape with a visual appeal. The Public Works and Water Resources Department can help guide you to resources to assist in plant selection.
- Use a mulching mower to keep grass trimmings on your yard. This reduces the need to fertilize.
- Compost your grass and yard waste debris.
- Take advantage of our free yard waste pickup service. This yard waste is then composted and offered back to our residents as leaf mulch.
- It is recommended that the 50' closest to the stream be maintained as a riparian buffer. We recognize this isn't always possible in older neighborhoods but any improvement is appreciated.



*Grass clippings and yard waste cascading into stream*

As Newark residents, we can all do our part to protect our waterways and keep them clean. If you have any questions regarding this letter or how to help improve creek health, call 302-366-7040.



## City of Newark Curbside Recycling RECYCLING IN DELAWARE: Recycle these



### Glass

BOTTLES  
JARS

### Metals

ALUMINUM CANS  
ALUMINUM FOIL

### Paper

NEWSPAPER  
CEREAL BOXES  
MAGAZINES  
PAPERBACK BOOKS  
OFFICE PAPER  
PHONE BOOKS  
CARDBOARD  
JUNK MAIL

Please collapse all boxes

### Plastic

BOTTLES AND JUGS  
YOGURT & BUTTER  
CONTAINERS  
RIGID PLASTIC

\*It is recommended that you return plastic grocery bags to the store they are from for recycling\*

Any container with any of the following numbers on the bottom of it:



#### Items **NOT** accepted:

- Styrofoam
- Motor oil containers
- Chemical containers
- Ceramics or dishes
- Light bulbs
- Window glass & mirrors
- Yard waste
- Food waste
- Television & computers
- Monitors

Call the City of Newark Public Works Department with any questions at (302) 366-7040, Monday–Friday, 8:30 a.m.—5:00 p.m.

## Protect Yourself From Sewage Back Ups

The City of Newark maintains approximately 95 miles of sanitary sewer mains located along road rights-of-way and utility easements. In spite of our best efforts, blockages of the mains occur which can cause sewage to back up into homes and businesses.

The City is generally not responsible or liable for costs associated with the clean up and repair of the damage caused by such an event.

Residents and business owners can take steps to protect themselves from these situations:

1. Standard property insurance typically excludes coverage for damage caused by water backing up into the structure. However, riders can be purchased that will cover some or all of the damages caused by sewage backing up into the home.
2. There are also circumstances where it may be prudent to install a back flow device to prevent water from backing up into the home or business. A plumber can help you determine if this would be a good choice.
3. Do not put fats, oils, grease, rags, cloth or disposable diapers, sanitary napkins, or paper products, other than toilet paper, down the drain. These items frequently cause problems in the mains and laterals that cause sewage to back up.

In the event that you experience a back up, please call the Public Works and Water Resources Department at (302) 366-7055 (24 hours a day) and we will send a crew out as quickly as possible to determine where the blockage is located and clear the blockage if it is found to be in the sewer main. If the blockage is in the lateral, it is the responsibility of the property owner to make the necessary arrangements to have the line cleaned.

If you have questions regarding this information, please call the Public Works and Water Resources Department at (302) 366-7055 during normal business hours and we will do what we can to assist you.



# Got **Drugs?**

**Saturday, September 27, 2014**

Bring unused prescription medication to the

- Newark Senior Center at 200 White Chapel Drive
  - UD Public Safety Building at 413 Academy Street
- 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.



On September 27 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. the Newark Police Department, University of Delaware Office of Public Safety, and the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) will give the public another opportunity to prevent pill abuse and theft by ridding their homes of potentially dangerous expired, unused, and unwanted prescription drugs.

Bring your medications for disposal to the Newark Senior Center at 200 White Chapel Drive or the UD Office of Public Safety at 413 Academy Street. The service is free and anonymous, no questions asked.

This initiative addresses a vital public safety and public health issue. Medicines that languish in home cabinets are highly susceptible to diversion, misuse, and abuse. Rates of prescription drug abuse in the U.S. are alarmingly high, as are the number of accidental poisonings and overdoses due to these drugs. Studies show that a majority of abused prescription drugs are obtained from family and friends, including from the home medicine cabinet. In addition, Americans are now advised that their usual methods for disposing of unused medicines—flushing them down the toilet or throwing them in the trash—both pose potential safety and health hazards.